

The Noble Beast Dog Training

Puppy Class Week 5

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## **Charging the Clicker**

### **Name Game/Baby Recall Step 3: Dog in the middle**

You and a partner are standing across from each other. Take turns calling the dog's name. Click the clicker when she starts moving toward that person and they will deliver the treat. Then switch! Play this game with as many people as you like!

## **Stand**

Behavior: Dog stands on all four limbs from a sit or a down

Verbal Cue: Stand

Dog should be in a sit or down position. Hold your food lure between your fingertips. Stick your food lure right in front of her nose. Once she is focused on the treat, move it away from her nose in a slightly upward direction. Don't move too quickly that she takes any steps forward, we want her to just pop right up into a standing position. Mark and reward when she does.

## **Magic Mat Step 2 adding distance**

### **Handling Exercise: Noisy tools**

Behavior: Dog remains calm around noisy husbandry tools

Verbal Cue: none

Some husbandry tools can be noisy making them a little scary for the puppy. (Grooming clippers, blow dryer). You can also use these steps to socialize your dog to other noisy items (vacuum cleaner, etc.)

- Hold the object out of sight (behind your back)
- Turn it on so that it makes noise (if there are different settings, start at the lowest)
- Feed your dog 3-5 pieces of food in a row
- Turn the object off. Pause for a few seconds then repeat the exercise

Once your dog is very comfortable with the noise, bring it into view and repeat the exercise.

### **Problem Prevention: Resource guarding (Food)**

Resource guarding is another normal behavior that dogs will exhibit towards other dogs. It is our job to teach our dogs at a young age that guarding food or objects is inappropriate and unnecessary when living with humans. The best way to prevent food guarding is to get everyone in the house involved with the following:

- (1) Periodically hand feed your puppy their kibble from their bowl.
- (2) Drop even better treats into and around her dish when you approach her eating
- (3) Gently pet and handle the puppy while she is eating from her bowl while periodically dropping even better treats into her dish while you are doing it.

(4) Periodically pick up her dish while she is eating and give her a delicious treat as a trade before setting it back down again.

(5) Provide a timed feeding schedule. Do not leave food dishes full with food out all day.

**DO NOT** attempt these exercises without providing your dog with food trades or treats. If you only ever handle your dog while they are eating (or sleeping or playing with their toys) and do not follow it up with a reinforcer (the treat) the dog may actually learn to resent your interaction while they are in possession of the resource. Think of how you would feel if you were eating dinner and someone suddenly approached you and began stroking your hair, taking food off your plate and sticking their fingers in your ears. You would not learn to accept their behavior. You would become annoyed and frustrated about it! Imagine, instead, if you were eating dinner when someone else approached you and said “hey! Would you like to trade your brussel sprouts for some ice cream?!” You would then be more likely to get excited for the ice cream and learn to anticipate and enjoy the approach of this person while you were eating.